§ 1215.32

shall be referred for litigation to the Commercial Litigation Branch, Civil Division of the Department of Justice.

§1215.32 Compromise, suspension and termination.

- (a) The Chairman of the MSPB or his designee may compromise, suspend or terminate the collection of debts where the outstanding principal is not greater than \$20,000. MSPB procedures for writing off outstanding accounts are available to the public.
- (b) The Chairman of the MSPB may compromise, suspend or terminate collection of debts where the outstanding principal is greater than \$20,000 only with the approval of, or by referral to the United States Attorney or the Department of Justice.
- (c) The Chairman of the MSPB will refer to the General Accounting Office (GAO) debts arising from GAO audit exceptions.

§ 1215.33 Omissions not a defense.

Failure to comply with any provisions of this rule may not serve as a defense to any debtor.

PART 1216—TESTIMONY BY MSPB EMPLOYEES RELATING TO OFFI-CIAL INFORMATION AND PRO-DUCTION OF OFFICIAL RECORDS IN LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

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AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 1204(h); 31 U.S.C. 9701.

SOURCE: 71 FR 17967, Apr. 10, 2006, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—General Provisions

§1216.101 Scope and purpose.

- (a) This part establishes policy, assigns responsibilities and prescribes procedures with respect to:
- (1) The production or disclosure of official information or records by MSPB employees, advisors, and consultants; and
- (2) The testimony of current and former MSPB employees, advisors, and consultants relating to official information, official duties, or the MSPB's record, in connection with federal or state litigation in which the MSPB is not a party.
 - (b) The MSPB intends this part to:
- (1) Conserve the time of MSPB employees for conducting official business:
- (2) Minimize the involvement of MSPB employees in issues unrelated to MSPB's mission;
- (3) Maintain the impartiality of MSPB employees in disputes between private litigants; and
- (4) Protect sensitive, confidential information and the deliberative processes of the MSPB.
- (c) In providing for these requirements, the MSPB does not waive the sovereign immunity of the United States.
- (d) This part provides guidance for the internal operations of MSPB. It does not create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, that a party may rely upon in any legal proceeding against the United States.

§ 1216.102 Applicability.

This part applies to demands and requests to current and former employees, advisors, and consultants for factual or expert testimony relating to official information or official duties or